

## **Abstract by Kathrin F. Stock - Survey on the recording and use of functional traits in dairy cattle management and breeding**

An important component in sustainability of dairy production is the functionality of the cows. With the substantial progress in the production traits achieved in dairy breeding, health and fertility have become important determinants of profitable milk production. Breeding goals and programs are reflecting this worldwide shift towards functionality. Standardization initiatives in this field are needed, but challenging with regard to trait definitions, recording practices and data analyses. Efficient work of the ICAR working group for recording, evaluation and genetic improvement of functional traits requires intense international and interdisciplinary communication and collaboration. An overview over past, current and future activities of different countries to improve functionality of the dairy cow is supposed to indicate the major tasks of the WG.